their guns, and said that the Government was prepared to have unconditional talks with them, to enable them to rejoin the mainstream. The Government is committed to the said offer of talks, within the constitutional frame work.

The Prime Minister of India had spelt out the parameters for initiating a peace dialogue with militant outfits in the North East on 15 April, 1998 at Guwahati declaring :

"To all those who have strayed from the paths of togetherness, whether in Assam or other States of the North East, I extend an invitation, come forward; let us discuss, my Government is committed to holding talks, to a restoration of peace; let us do so within the four corners of our Constitution."

Cease fire and peace talks with the NSCN(IM) are underway since 1 August, 1997. Suspension of operations with the Bodo Liberation Tiger (BLT) was also announced earlier this year. NSCN(K) have also issued a Press Release Offering a formal 'cease fire' with the Government of India and political talks.

The offer for talks have been made by the Government in view of its commitment to resolve all issues through negotiations. The Government are firmly of the view that violence has no place in a democratic polity and the people by and large want peace and an end to violence.

Houses Vacated by Kashmiri Pandits

3983. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the houses vacated by Kashmiri Pandit migrants have either been torched by the militants or are occupied by unauthorised people;

(b) if so, how many houses are in possession of unauthorised people;

(c) what steps have been taken to dispossess of unauthorised people from such houses;

(d) what is the number of houses vacated from unauthorised people so far; and

(e) what steps have been taken to protect such houses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO) :

(a) to (e) Government of J&K has passed the J and K Kashmiri migrants Immovable Properties (Preservation, Protection and Restraint of Distress Sales) Act, 1997. As per the last information made available by the Government of J and K it was found that there were 16979 total structures in six districts of the Valley owned by Kashmiri Pandit community. Out of this, 5608 houses were found damaged due to subversion and 2872 damaged due to natural calamities. 8499 structures were found to be intact. 618 structures were found under illegal occupation. The authorities had issued notices to the illegal occupants numbering 370 for eviction and, in most of the cases, eviction had reportedly been effected and the properties had been taken over by the concerned District Magistrates. The State Government is taking all possible and necessary steps for protection and security of migrants' properties. The Deputy Commissioners have been told to involve Revenue, Police and local community jointly in ensuring the safety of the migrants' properties. The State Government has complied an inventory of the migrants' property and copies of the same have been kept available in the Offices of Resident Commissioner, New Delhi and Relief Commissioner (Migrants), Jammu, for the facility of the migrants. The State Government had also disbursed Rs. 28.60 crores for 4691 damaged structures.

Liberhan Commission of Enquiry

3984. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Liberhan Commission enquiring into Ayodhya incidents of December 6, 1992, has been asked to expedite submission of its report;

(b) if so, the likely date of submission of its report; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) to (c) As per the Government of India Ministry of Home Affairs' Gazette Notification No. SO-1300(E) dated 28th December, 1999, the Liberhan Ayodhya Commission of Inquiry is required to submit its report on or before the 30th June, 2000. However, the proceedings of the Commission are in progress and the examination/cross examination of witnesses is still continuing.